



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

SEP 14 2007

The Honorable Joe Courtney
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0000

Dear Mr. Courtney:

Thank you for your letter of August 23, 2007, concerning the Military Construction Project 464 for the replacement of Pier 31 at Naval Submarine Base New London. I am responding on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

Navy fully supports this important replacement project and the vital improvements to submarine berthing capability that it will provide for New London. A global assessment of infrastructure requirements for our submarine force has been conducted and this project directly supports an urgent shortfall identified in this study. Accordingly, Navy has programmed this project for execution in fiscal year 2009.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts on this issue. If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

M. G. MULLEN
Admiral, U.S. Navy